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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In accordance with one embodiment of the invention there is provided a method of providing permission to a web site to transmit data to a child. A web site accessible via a URL receives a request for access from a child. The site then transmits the request to an authority database. The authority database receives the request and transmits a response ~~from~~ to the site to either (1) grant [,] or (2) deny access to the child.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In accordance with a third embodiment of the invention there is provided a permission based method for providing an individual from one organization with information about an individual from a partner organization. At least a first partner and a second partner provide employee information to a PCIX server. The PCIX server creates a matrix of the two sets of employee information and ~~input~~ inputs the matrix into a meta-directory. Based on a request for information from the meta-directory, the requester is provided with a response that is dynamically mapped from the matrix and other subsets of the meta-directory. The partner companies could pre-authorize some or all of the transmission of data to requesters or in the alternative, require authorization on a case by case basis.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In one aspect of this embodiment, two or more companies contribute salesperson information to a PCIX server. The PCIX server compiles a matrix of the information and inputs that information into a meta-directory that could ~~links~~ link salespeople across each company

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based on a desired function or capability. One such match could be where two salespeople from different companies both sell their respective service to a common customer. The meta-directory would also store communications between the salespeople and track any referrals.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

It is an advantage of the invention that an employee in one organization can rapidly locate the appropriate employee in a partner company. It is a further advantage of the invention that the PCIX meta-directory structure provides a secure and reliable third-party authorization platform. It is a further advantage of the invention that the PCIX meta-directory structure enables a specific method of communicating information between parties ~~and~~ while adding that information to the meta-directory.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

With reference to Figure 1, a requester 2 requests 4 information from a host 6. Host 6 receives request 4 and transmits 8 request 4 to authority database server 10. Database authority 10 communicates 18 request 4 to authorization party 20. Authorization party 20 communicates 16 authorization or denial to database authority 10. If authorization is communicated, database authority transmits either (1) a signal 22 to host 6 to provide information or (2) a signal 14 to requester 2 which includes a key, such as a password, to access 12 the requested information from host 6. If authorization is denied, database authority 10 transmits a signal 22' to host 6 to withhold information or a signal 14' to requester 2 indicating that access is forbidden.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Host 6 and servers outlined in other embodiments are typically a computer, more specifically a web server, located on the Internet or within a network of computers such as a

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Local Area Network (LAN) or a Wide Area Network (WAN). Host 6 and database server 10 ~~server~~ are typically connected to the Internet or the computer network via high-speed connections such as a T1 line. Requester 2 locates host 6 via an Internet Protocol (IP) address or other computer network address assigned to host 6. Requester 6 2 can have a fixed IP address on the network or be a user who is dynamically assigned an IP address when logged in to the network. Database authority 10 is also a computer located on the computer network and is also assigned an IP address or other network address. Authority 20 is accessible via the computer network and communication between the parties is typically accomplished via Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) and can be encrypted into cypher text. Common encryption schemes utilize 128 binary digit (bit) encryption but greater or lesser encryption schemes can be used. Other communication methods effective to transmit data over a computer network are equally appropriate.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

With reference to Figure 2, a child 24 accesses 26 a vendor website 28 and requests to register. Vendor website 28 transmits 32 request to a third-party server 40 such as followup.net. Third-party server 40 notifies 38 parent 42 of child 24 that child 24 wishes to register at vendor website 28. Parent 42 then transmits 36 a grant or denial of permission to third party server 40. If parent 42 grants permission, third-party server 40 communicates 32 to vendor 28 that child is permitted to register and or sends a key 34 such as a password to child 24 to register 30 at vendor website 28. If parent 42 denies permission, server 40 notifies vendor website 28 that child cannot register and or notifies 34 child 24 that he or she cannot register.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Figure 5 is an illustration of a multi-company matrix and meta-directory system. Companies 96, 98 and 100 transmit 102, 126, 118 an employee characteristic list including without limitation (1) employee name, (2) employee position, (3) sales territory, (4) current

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customers, and (5) prospective customers to a third-party meta-directory 124. Meta-directory 124 compiles a matrix listing that relates employees from one company to employees of at least a second company by common position, customer, territory or other relevant variable. A salesperson 110 could access meta-directory 124 to find a suitable partner from at least a second company. Companies 96, 98, and 100 would have full control over the transmission of the information it provided. In another embodiment, companies 96, 98, and 100 would pre-authorize the transmission of information.

Please insert the following paragraphs after page 8, line 2:

Company A contributes 102 salesperson 110 and client list (prospective or existing) and other company-specific information (such as salesperson profiles and partner lists) to third-party meta-directory 124. Company B contributes 126 salesperson 112 and client list (prospective or existing) and other company-specific information (such as salesperson profiles and partner lists) to third-party meta-directory 124. Company C contributes 118 salesperson 114 and client list (prospective or existing) and other company-specific information (such as salesperson profiles and partner lists) to third-party meta-directory 124.

The third party meta-directory 124 has a matrix listing that relates each company's A,B,C salespeople 110, 112, 114 by their common accounts by matching up accounts by name, territory, etc. using computer assistance for comparing and relating company names. The third party may also be programmed to handle different types of request such as prompting for additional information 106, allowing sender or receiver to route requests to additional intermediaries, and attaching additional content to communications. Each participating company controls display of and access to information by others as it travels through the system.

The third party acts as a computer agent / slave server for companies by distributing or making available lists on-line.

Individual salespeople 110 use their computers to discover 104 their counterparties 112, 114 by common account. The individual salespeople who wish to communicate with an identified salesperson 112, 114 at another company B,C requests 108 the third party 124 send a

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communication to the counterparty on behalf of the requester. The third party may be programmed on behalf of the counterparty to ask 116 requester at the company A before forwarding 120 the request to the appropriate person 114 at the other company C (qualification survey).

The third party may be programmed by sending to receiving companies to add information to (such as additional information submitted upon request or pre-stored information), forward or copy communications to others in the process. The third party may provide a response mechanism either pre-programmed or manually by individual communication. The third party enables tracking of communication and can send an on-line inquiry 116, 122 to one or the other side requesting status up-dates of the object of communication. The third party can provide activity reports to both sides' computers.